

PREPARATION:

- Choose a theme for the week – Some ideas from my daughter Martha: Mermaids, Guide Dogs, Princesses. So, I'm doing 'Under the Sea', 'People Who Help Us' and 'Princesses & Castles' to start with.
- Sort out some books - One pile of fact/educational books, one pile of reading for fun books, and one pile of book that fit with this week's theme. Put some away for future use.
- Set up some relevant toys for the week if appropriate, linked to your theme. So, I'm digging out Martha's mermaid toys and dolls, a fishing game, Little Mermaid and Nemo DVDS, etc...
- I've set up a string and pegs to hang up any work we do through the week.
- Save resources – keep an eye on your recycling bin and save anything that might be useful in the next few weeks.
- Create a tat box - Any plastic tat or junk in your toy boxes put them into a separate box of 'treasure' to bring out when you're really stuck for entertainment.
- Have some sort of timetable to stick on the wall - for both your sakes! It can be as flexible / visual as you think suits your child. Martha's a bit oblivious so far so I will mainly have it up for me and my husband to refer to. But include pictures or simple directions so they can see what's coming next each day.
- For the phonics activities I am going to use a selection of things that school have sent, and/or games we already own.
- I'm going to make a 'Jam Jar' which will be full of small activities/treats chosen by Martha. If she has a good day or we have some spare time she can choose a 'Jam Jar Activity'. Might be good for bribery!

9am-9:30	PE with Joe Wicks on YouTube / Walk
9:30-10	Phonics, word recognition, or spellings game
10-10:30	English task
10:30-11	Kids out in the garden with a snack (I would get a cuppa too)
11-11:30	Number/ Maths task
11.30-12.00	Story time - choose books and read together
12.00-1.00	Lunch and free play
1.00-2.00	Science fun / Art / messy play / baking activity
2-2.45	TV / Screen Time for kids (clean up!)
2.45 – 3.30	Outside play
3.30	Snack time / Tea
3.45 – 4.45	Board games and puzzles
4.45	Screen time / TV / Movie (I cook dinner)

UNDER THE SEA – Activity ideas

Day	English / Drawing	Maths	Science / Art / Play
Mon	<p>Book Detective – (6 books, pen and paper, magnifying glass optional) Write 6 letters on the paper for them to ‘find’ on the covers of the books.</p> <p>To extend: choose their own letter, write their own letters, look inside the books, increase number of letters to find. Finish by reading together.</p>	<p>Magnetic Fishing Bingo – (make a simple fishing rod with something metal (paperclip?) on the end of string – check it works first! Magnetic numbers 1-9, a bowl, draw a simple 2x2 bingo grid with mix of numbers written on for each player) Place the magnetic numbers in a bowl, set up for the kids to ‘go fishing’. When they ‘catch’ a number they call it out and whoever has it on their card can keep it. The winner is whoever gets all 4 numbers first and calls BINGO!</p> <p>To extend: fish and put all numbers in correct order, reverse order, simple +/-.</p>	<p>Science – sink or float (watertight box or bowl, waterproof objects Clipboard, paper, pen) Together, use your clipboard to make a list of objects to test, you might want to use toys from your theme, then collect. Fill your box/bowl with water and set up two spots – one for items that float, one for those that sink. You might want to reuse your list to show which float and which sink. Together test your items and record carefully. Afterwards, talk about what floated – why might that be? Record your findings in some way, e.g. make a poster, take a photograph, use some writing, some counting.</p>
Tues	<p>Letter Writing – (Paper, pens, pencil, envelopes, stamps) Write a letter together to a loved one in isolation, if possible walk and post it.</p> <p>To extend: Draw pictures / colour / take some photos to send with it.</p>	<p>Cupcake Maths – (cupcake cases, small objects eg. Pom poms / peas / lego pieces) On cupcake cases, write either simple numbers or sums. Children to add the correct number into the cases. When you check you can say whether their cakes are ‘baked’ or ‘not ready for the oven’. To extend: repeat with larger numbers, Pdifferent objects, subtractions, ‘decorate your cakes with 2 more’.</p>	<p>Art – painting Find some illustrations or pictures to look at first, then paint or draw an underwater scene / backdrop.</p>
Weds	<p>Word/ Letter Pairs – (paper / card cut into equal card, approx. 12 / 16? You may want spares for later)</p>	<p>Outside Measuring – (clipboard)</p>	<p>Art – play doh / modelling clay / crafty bits.</p>

	<p>Write a selection of words or letters on the paper, twice each. Play pairs until all the pairs are found.</p> <p>To extend: write out more cards with different words, throw some numbers in.</p>	<p>Make a list together of things to measure, e.g. steps to the lamppost, jumps to the gate, skips to the fence.</p> <p>Go outside and start measuring!</p> <p>To extend: take turns, what's the difference between my steps and yours? Vary the method further using different body parts (hands / feet / fingers / arms) or objects (bike length/ wheelbarrow/ bucket/ cars)</p>	<p>Look again at your colourful books or pictures, and stick up your scene from yesterday somewhere close. Now using the play doh or crafty bits make some figures to sit in front of the scene, e.g. fish, mermaids, coral etc. Take a picture when you've finished. Use any appropriate toys in the scene too!</p>
Thur	<p>Lolly letters – (lolly sticks with some letters or simple words written on, a bag of letters)</p> <p>Children choose a lolly stick, then have to find the matching letter or make the word from their own letters.</p> <p>To extend: Harder words, copy and write the words, collect into a sentence.</p>	<p>Spider's Web - (pen and paper)</p> <p>Draw the numbers 1-20 randomly all over the page, then circle. Would they like to make a web? Together find each number and draw lines from number to number. Next, draw the numbers and let children draw their own lines.</p> <p>To extend: Repeat, get them to count backwards, count in twos, 5s, 10s, timestables. Giant version with number cards blu tack and string.</p>	<p>Messy – Digging for Treasure (Sand or gravel or flour, some sort of 'treasure' e.g. sea-themed toys, coins, a box, a brush or small shovel)</p> <p>Set up a box / tray and bury the objects you want to use. Children have to dig them up carefully. You may want to make them a list to check off as they find items.</p> <p>To extend: children to wash items afterwards, rebury for you to dig up, bury new objects, children to gather new toys, make a list and bury for you to find, time them.</p>
Fri	<p>Penny Name – (Paper, coins / tokens, piggy bank or box with a slot)</p> <p>Write your child's name at the top, underline each letter. On the next row repeat with one letter missing, repeat until the last line is blank spaces, just lines (like hangman!). Place a penny or token at the end of each row. When they have completed their name on each row they</p>	<p>Number Towers – (paper or number cards, duplo / lego or blocks)</p> <p>Write numbers on paper or use your cards, spread over the carpet and challenge them to make towers with the correct number of blocks.</p> <p>To extend: Include sums, bigger numbers, get them to join to existing towers.</p>	<p>Time Capsule – Every Friday get children to pick some 'evidence' from what they've done this week. Talk about best bits, photos to print, write notes to explain. You can get them to include facts about themselves, or things they have learnt. Collect them and pack in a box, after a few weeks the box will go away to be reopened in a few YEARS time!</p>

	<p>can post their token or coin. Maybe make the last one a chocolate one!</p> <p>To extend: different words, surnames, time them - can they do it quicker each time?</p>		
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Resources:

Under bed box – useful for loads of stuff

Some letters / numbers (magnetic or wooden)

Baskets to keep organised!

Play doh

Paper

Pencils / Pens / Crayons

Tokens / Coins

Duplo / lego

Lolly Sticks

Paint

Paintbrushes

Sand / gravel

Paper / plastic cups

(The above planning is a combination of my own ideas and ideas from @fiveminutemum, @beckys_treasure_baskets, and @thebodycoach. I also know @emma_scottchild (Ladyland) is doing an online Art Club on Instagram, every day at 2pm if you want to craft-along with her!)